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THE TRYALS

Of such Persons as under the

NOTION

OF

LONDON-APPRENTICES

WERE

Tumultuously Assembled in *Moore-Fields*, and other Places, on *Easter Holidays* last, under Colour of pulling down

Bawdy-houses.

Taken

At the Sessions in the Old-Bailey,

On Saturday *April* 4. 1668.

With Allowance.

LONDON,

Printed for *Robert Pawlet*, and are to be sold at the *Bible* in *Chancery-Lane*, near *Serjeants-Inn*, 1668.

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THE TRYALS

Of Such Persons as under the Notion of

LONDON-APPRENTICES

Assembled in

Moore-Fields and other Places on *Easter*-Holy-dayes last, under Colour of Pulling-Down *Bawdy-Houses*.

UPon *Easter* Munday last, being the 23th. day of *March*, in the 20th. Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord the King that now is; It being the usuall time of the Apprentices Liberty for their Civil Recreations, A Rude Multitude of People being met together in *Moore-Fields*, where, being so assembled, were instigated

by ſome Factious Perſons amongſt them; who, to colour their Deſign, inſinuated into the Rabble the pulling down of *Bawdy-Houſes*; Under which Colour of Reforming of *Bawdy-Houſes*, they at length Raiſed a great Hubbub; and ſo increaſing in their Diſorders, in a Tumultuous manner, committed many notorious Crimes; But, by the vigilancy of the Magiſtrates of the City, with the aſſiſtance of His Majeſties Guards, were at laſt reduced; ſome of the Ring-Leaders whereof were apprehended and committed to the Goal for their Offences, to receive their Tryalls according to the known Lawes of the Land.

And having been ſeveral times Examined, upon Confeſſion of ſome, and Pregnant Proofe againſt others, by a ſpecial Jury of ſeveral Knights, Eſquires and Gentlemen, of very great worth and eſteeme, of the County of *Middleſex*,

Theſe Perſons following, to wit.

Peter Meſſenger,
Richard Beaſley,
William Greene,
Thomas Appletree,
John Earles,
William Wilks,
William Ford,
Richard Farrell,

Edward

Edward Colton,
Edward Bedle,
Richard Latimer,
John Sharpleſs,
Richard Woodward,
Thomas Limerick,
John Richardſon.

Were Endicted of High-Treaſon for Levying of a Publick Warr againſt our Sovereign Lord the King; and at the Goale-delivery of *Newgate*, held at the Seſſions-houſe in the *Old-Baly London*, the Firſt day of *April*, 1668, and continued till the 4th. day, on which ſaid 4th. day in the preſence of

Sir *John Kelyng* Knight, Lord Chiefe Juſtice of His Majeſties Court of Kings-Bench.

Sir *Edward Atkins*
Sir *Chriſtopher Turner* } Barons of His Majeſties
Sir *Richard Rainsford* } Court of *Exchequer*.

Together with Sir *William Wild* Recorder of the City of *London*; Theſe Priſoners following, *viz.*

Peter Meſſenger.
Richard Beaſley.
William Greene.
Thomas Appletree.

Were firſt called to the Barr to receive their Tryalls; where, after Proclamation being made, they ſeveral-

ly

ly Pleaded to their Indictments, and put themselves for their Tryal upon their Country.

The Names of the Jury Sworn.

Anthony Hall,
William Knight,
Henry Francis,
John Baker,
Robert Shaw,
Thomas Constable,
Thomas Jennius,
John Nichols,
Ralph Bradshaw,
John Saving,
John Marsh,
Henry Kent.

The Jury being Sworn, the Court proceeded to Tryal.

Kings *Counsel.* Mr. *North.* You Gentlemen of the Jury, these four, *Peter Messenger, Richard Beasley, William Greene, Thomas Appletree,* stand Indicted for High-Treason, having left their Obedience to our Soveraigne Lord the King, and being instigated by the Devill, upon the 24th. day of *March* last past, did Contrive a Design to Levy

Warr

War and Rebellion against the King; being in the Head of Four or Five Hundred, Armed and Arraied: If this matter be proved against them, you must find them Guilty.

2. Counsel, Mr. *Pemberton.* You Gentlemen of the Jury, these Prisoners at the Bar did contrive and levy war, and fell upon the Kings Officers, and beat them, and broke the Prison, and let out the Prisoners, some for Felony among the Multitude these were Four of them, as we shall endeavour to prove.

The names of the Witnesses called and sworn,

Richard Dowson.
John Gowley.
Henry Ball.
James Martin.
Abraham Brooker.

The Oath.

THe evidence you shall give between our Sovereign Lord the King and the Prisoners at the Bar shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help you God.

Counsel. Sir, pray tell my Lord what you see these do on *Easter Tuesday.*

Witness. My Lord, I saw this *Richard Beasley* in the head of four or five hundred; he had a sword, and I took his sword from him; he had Colours, a green Apron upon a Pole; I heard some of them

cry,

cry, Down with the Redcoats, and I did see *William Greene* there too, but not *Appletree*.

L^d. C. Justice. Did they go with the multitude or no, or were they with them?

Witn. They were with them, but I cannot say they went along with them.

Counsel. Pray tell my Lord what the Multitude said at that time.

Witness. When we fell on them, they run away.

Lord C. Just. Did *Beasley* lead them on?

Witness. They said he was their Captain.

John Cowley } *Counsel.* Master *Cowley* tell my
second witness } Lord what you saw.

Cowley. My Lord, he cut me and wounded me on the hand. The Constable charged them to be gone, and disperse themselves; with that they struck at the Constable, and knocked him down.

L^d. C. Just. Under what pretence did they pull down any house?

Witness. The Constable, and some more of us, beat them up *Nightingale* Lane, I know not what their pretence was; I saw *Appletree* there, for he was the first that struck at the Constable, this was on *Easter Tuesday*.

L^d. C. Just. Did you see *Greene* there?

Witness. I cannot tell.

L^d. C. Just. Did you see them pull down any house? what did you hear them say?

Witness. They said, Down with the Bawdy-houses.

L^d. C.

Ld. C. Just. Did you hear them talk of the Red-coats there? was *Greene* amongst them as one that helped and acted with them?

Witness. I see him in *Moorfields* on *Munday*, *Tuesday*, and *Wednesday* shout and throw up his Hat.

Third Witness. *L. C. Just.* What did you see them do?

Witness. All that I saw was that *Peter Messenger* come along with the Colours in his hand, and I took him and carried him to prison my self, I did not hear them cry, Down with honest houses, but Bawdy-houses, I did not see all those, but onely these two, (pointing to two at the Bar.)

Ld. C. Justice. Ay that was the Captain and the Ensign.

Fourth witness *Henry Bull.* My Lord, I saw this *Beasley* and *Messenger* in *Moore-fields* pulling down houses on *Munday* and on *Tuesday* in the head of three hundred, and at that time we routed them; On *Wednesday* they came with four or five hundred, and cried, Down with the Redcoats.

James Martin first Witness. *L. Ch. Just.* What can you say?

Witness. All I know is, *Beasley* made a blow at our Ensign, and struck at him with his Sword.

Ld. C. Just. What was their pretence?

Witness. I cannot tell that.

Another Witness. I see *Thomas Appletree* help to pull down *Peter Burlingham*'s house, and broke another.

Serj. Wild. What Company had they?

Witness. About three hundred.

La. C. Just. Had they any Colours? what did you hear them declare?

Witness. I heard them declare nothing, for I had like to have been knockt on the head.

L.C. Justice to the Prisoner *Beasley.* Well what do you say for your self, you hear it is sworn against you, that you were at the head of this Rabble, and they called you Captain, and you lead them up, and when the Constable came to command peace in the Kings name, you fell on him, and wounded him, so that he is hardly able to be here this day; Why did you gather this multitude together? It will behove you to make your Answer, what reason had you for it?

Beasley Pris. I do not know the reason.

L. Ch. Just. I speak to you, that you should give a reason; After all this trouble that we have had in this Nation, it is a sad thing that a great number of giddy-headed people must gather together, under pretence of Reformation, to disturb the peace of the Nation again, if you can say no more for your self, there will be little trouble with you.

Serj. Wilde. What was the meaning of your gathering together?

Beasley Pris. We went to pull down Bawdy-houses.

L Ch. Justice. How did you know which were Bawdy-houses? if you had known them you might have indicted them, there is law against them, but this

this is a strange kind of Reformation, if a Rabble come and saies, This man is a Papist, and this keeps a Bawdy-house, and would pull it down, this is a mad Reformation.

Messenger Pris. My Lord that man hath sworn I was out on *Tuesday*, it was *Wednesday* before I came forth, but staid at home with my wife, because I would not be among them.

L. Ch. Justice. Did not you carry a green Apron on a Pole for your Colours?

Prisoner. My Lord, as I passed along by the Rout they flung a Bottle at me, and had like to have knockt me down, and tore my Apron off, and charged me to carry it on a Pole, and I would fain have come away from them, and could not.

L. Ch. Justice. Make this appear, that you would fain have got away, and that they did force you to do what you did, and I shall be glad of it.

Prisoner. There is none of them here now that were there then.

L. Ch. Justice. Then all that you say is of little use: for it is no great thing to make a lye to save ones Life.

Prisoner. God is my Witness.

L. Ch. Justice. Have a care what you say.

A Constable wit- } *L. Ch. Justice.* What say you
ness Sworne. } of these four at the Barr.

Constable. My Lord, I heard they were pulling down Houses, and I did what I could to preserve the Kings Peace; and that day I did save a great

many houſes and goods; the next day they were near my own houſe, and I did endeavour to do the ſame, and this Fellow with his Company did ſurpriſe my Men, and knockt me down; yet I Commanded the Peace, and they beſet me round about, and cut me over the hand; I do remember that *Beaſley*. We were in a place where there were three turnings, but they knockt me down, and beat me ſo, that I could not tell who it was that did hurt me.

L. Ch. Juſtice. Do you know any more of this Company.

Witneſs. No, my Lord: for if the Soldiers had not come, they would not have left till they had killed me.

Counſell. Had you your Staffe?

Conſtable. Yes; But they took it away from me.

Another witneſs. I ſaw *Meſſenger* on Tueſday, though he ſayes to the contrary.

L. Ch. Juſtice. Meſſenger, You hear what is ſaid againſt you, you ſay you were not out on Tueſday, he hath Sworn you were at the head of a Company with a Green Apron on a ſtick, and led them up.

Priſoner. I was not there.

Henry Bull } I ſaw him (my Lord) on Tueſday,
Witneſs. } he and *Beaſley*, about eleven of the clock in *Moore-Fields*, and they had gathered a great multitude of four or five hundred; and then they made an attempt to come into our Pariſh, and they cried, Down with the Redcoates.

Messenger Prisoner. Pray, my Lord, let my VVitnesses be called in, for they Swear false.

L. Ch. Justice. Your VVitnesses shall be called, a little of due consideration before hand would have done you more good then now.

Mr. *Glover* and Mr. *Bennet the Prisoners VVitnesses.* } *L. Ch. Justice.* What say you concerning the Prisoner.

Glover. I can say (my Lord) he was till five of the Clock on Wednesday at Mr. *Bennets* House in *Golden Lane.*

L. Ch. Justice. Where was he on Monday and Tuesday.

Glover. I know not.

Bennet. On Wednesday he was at a Kinsmans House.

L. Ch. Justice. These two Witnesses gives no account at all of you, where you were on Monday and Tuesday.

L. Ch. Justice. Greene, What say you?

Greene. I was not among them.

L. Ch. Justice. It is sworne you were amongst them and threw up your Cap, Were you not knockt down?

Prisoner. Yes my Lord.

L. Ch. Justice. How could you be knockt down if you were not amongst them.

John Cowley VVitness. } *L. Ch. Justice.* Did you not see *Greene* in the Multitude?

Cowley

Cowley. I see him do nothing; but I see him with a Staff in his hand; I did not see him act any thing but follow the Colours.

Greene. Priſ. I was not among them but as I came home.

L. Ch. Juſtice. You meane you did not take part with them, but you were there: It is Sworn you were upon Tueſday, following your Captain and the Colours: It is Sworn by Mr. *Bull* you were among the Rabble, and were knockt down: now, if the Jury do not believe that you did act among them, we will leave it to them.

L. Ch. Juſtice. Appletree, What ſay you?

Appletree. As I was paſſing along (my Lord) I ſaw a Crowde, and I went to know what was the matter, and there came a Company down, and ſome running after me did me a miſchief; I did not ſee the Conſtable, nor ſay, Knock him down.

L. Ch. Juſtice. It is Sworn that you were the firſt Man that ſtruck the Conſtable, and that you were at the pulling down of *Burlinghams* Houſe.

Priſoner. I did not offer to pull down his houſe, nor ſtrike the Conſtable.

Abraham Brookes } My Lord, he was in *Peter*
VVitneſs. } *Burlinghams* houſe, and broke it down, ſo that your might have riden a Horſe through it; I ſpake to him two or three times to leave off, and if I had not ſtoopt ſuddenly he had ſtruck me down with a Bed-ſtaffe.

Cowley.

Conley Witness. I did see him on Tuesday with their Company, and I did see him strike at the Constable.

L. Ch. Justice to the Jury. Gentlemen of the Jury, you have heard what these say; The Prisoners are Indicted for High-Treason, for Levying of War against the King. By Levying of war is not only meant, when a Body is gathered together, as an Army is, but if a Company of People will go about any Publick Reformation, this is High-Treason, if it be to pull down Inclosures, for they take upon them the Regall Authority, the way is worse then the thing: These People do pretend their Design was against Bawdy-houses, now for Men to go about to pull down Houses under the pretence of Bawdy-houses, with a Captain, and an Ensigne, and Weapons, if this thing be indured, Who is safe? It is High-Treason because it doth betray the Peace of the Nation, for every Subject is as much wronged as the King, for if every man may reforme what he will, no man is safe: therefore this thing is of a desperate Consequence, we must make this for a publick Example: There is reason we should be very cautious, we are but newly delivered from Rebellion, and we know that that Rebellion first began under the Pretence of Religion and the Law, for the Devill hath alwayes this Vizard upon it; We know that that Rebellion began thus, therefore we have great reason to be very wary that we fall not again into

into the same error, but it should be carried on with a watchful eye: And because Apprentices hereafter shall not go on in this Road, we will have the solemne Resolution of all the Judges, and therefore you are to find it specially. You must find the matter of Fact. And We will Assemble all the Judges together in a Sober way, to give them Judgment, whether it be High-Treason or no; not that we do doubt of it now, for we know it is High-Treason, but for generall satisfaction. It is proved that *Beasley* went as their Captain, with his Sword, and flourisht it over his head; *Messenger* was there with his Green Apron on a Pole in *Morefields* on Tuesday, and on Wednesday he was in the same posture again.

Prisoners. My Lord, We would have our Witnesses heard.

L. Ch. Justice, You shall have no wrong done to you.

As for *Greene* it is proved he was with them shouting, and casting up his Cap: Now the Act that any one does in such a Tumult is the Act of all, if they all joyn together. He was on Tuesday following there, and on Wednesday he was taken. And then for *Appletree* he was the first Man that struck the Constable, and pull'd down *Burlinghams* house.

Edmund

Edmund Bedle, } to the Barr.
Richard Latimer,

Bill of Indictment.

You that are now called, being moved through the Instigation of the Devill, and having not the Fear of God before your eyes, have withdrawn your Obedience to our Sovereigne Lord the King, and against him did imagine and contrive Warr and Rebellion the 24th. day of *March*, with four or five hundred Persons in a Warlike manner arraied with long Pikes and other Armes, there met and assembled, against the Peace of our Sovereign Lord the King His Crown and Dignitie, &c.

Witnesses Sworne.
William Badley,
William Riggs,
John Maldey.
John Williams.

K. Counsell. Gentlemen of the Jury, *Bedle* and *Latimer* stand Indicted for High-Treason, wanting that love and obedience that every man ought to have of his King, did the 24th. day of *March* assemble themselves together, to the number of four or five hundred persons, to Levie Warr and Rebellion; if we prove this, you must find them Guilty of High-Treason.

Gaylon of Finſbury Priſon.
Witneſs Sworne.

Counſell. Tell my Lord what you ſaw.

2 *Witneſs.* I can charge no particular Perſon, I was from home; and when I came home I found the Priſon doores open, and they had let out their own Company and two others; and I locked up the Priſon doores, and they gathered together about the Priſon, and there came their Captain with his Halfe-Pike, and Commanded me to open the doore; I told them, I would not open the doore: they told me, VVe have been Servants, but we will be Maſters now; and if you will not open the doore, we will do your buſineſs for you by and by: They had Swords and Belts, and Halfe-Pikes, and they did puſh at me; And I came to a Parly with them when I ſaw there was no remedy; I let their Captain in, and when he could find none of his Company there he went away; but had it not been for the Company that ſtood without I would have kept him faſt enough.

Another VVitneſs Sworne.

L. Ch. Juſtice. VVere any of theſe that ſtand at the Barr at *Clerkenwell* with a ſtick in his hand?

VVitn. Yes (my Lord) I ſaw *Latimer* there knocking at the Gate, and the Priſon was broke open; and there came down Juſtice *VVelſh* to them to diſperſe them, but they let out two of their own Rabble, and two of the Felons.

Another

Another Witness sworn. Nine of the Clock on *Friday*, I went to the Gate of the *New-Prison*, and there came and clapt a Bar in between the Gates to open them, and I saw *Latimer* throwing stones at the Windows. Justice *Welsh* being there, would have taken some of them, and they cried out, one die, and all die.

William Rigge, witness, sworn. I saw *Beadle*, and took him; their number was about four or five hundred; and I got out two Files of Men, and took four men more, whereof this *Beadle* was one of them.

Judge. What do you say to this?

Latimer. This man hath a spight against me, (my Lord) for getting up behind the Coach, I let my Whip fall, and gave him a lash.

L. Ch. Justice. But what sayes the other against you? what made you there? And *Beadle*, what do you say for your self.

Beadle, Pris. My Lord, I was in *Southwark*, and came from thence to *Bishopsgate-street*, and met with a Friend, and we drank four Flagons of Beer, so that I got a little too much drink in my head; and I stood and looked a while at the Prisoners in *Bishopsgate*, and my Uncle coming along, I went with him a little way, and then turned about and left him; and there was a man came and said, Brother, will you not go and see what they do in the Fields? and it was my hard fortune to be among

them, but did not any hurt, bleſſed be God, but I followed them without doing any harm, and they went down *Old ſtreet* to *Clerkenwell*, but I did not break the Priſon, nor do not know where the Priſon is; for there was a Company made up to them, and they began to run.

L. Ch. Juſtice. What did you ſay when they run away, did you not ſay, Face about?

Priſoner. Your Lordſhip heard ſo, but I did not ſay face about.

L. Ch. Juſtice. You Gentlemen of the Jury, you ſee what their Indictment is; They gathered a multitude together at *Clerkenwell*, and they had a Captain with a Half-Pike, that came to the Priſon and forc'd open the door, and brought out two of their own crew, and two of the Felons, and they ſaid they had been Servant before, but now would be Maſters, and they cried out one die, and all die. And you have three Witneſſes that ſwear that theſe two were there. *Latimer* eſpecially, the Keeper, ſayes he was forc'd to come to a parly with them, and took in their Captain, to give him ſatisfaction that there was none other there of their gang. *Beale* ſayes he was there but he was drunk, which is no ſufficient excuſe.

Richard

Richard Cotton
John Earles
William Wilde } called to the Bar.
Richard Farrell
William Ford

Their Indictment read.

Sir *Philip Howard* } *L.Ch.Justice.* Sir *Philip* speak
witness sworn. } what you know of these men.

Sir *Ph.* I delivered these men into the Constables hands.

Counsel. Did you not see a multitude of these people gathered together in a warlike way, if so, tell my Lord.

Sir *Ph.* There came some sober people, and told me that the tumult was greater then it was when my Lord *Craven* was there, and they did desire my assistance, and so I went into the Fields, and divided my men half on the one side, and half on the other, and the people looked upon us so contemptibly, that they told us we should quickly be unhorsed, therefore I charged my men not to let any man come within my Arms.

L.Ch.Justice. Had they any Colours?

Sir *Ph.* They had a Sheet for their Colours, and when they saw my Horse they got into the Field, and stood as if they did not fear us, and I ordered some of my men to go and take him that had the Colours, and so our men did, and I called for a Constable,

ſtable, but there was no Conſtable to be found, and I thought my ſelf to govern them, and to bring them into better order, at length this man came with his watch, and I delivered them into his hands, and I believe theſe are the men that I delivered to the Conſtable.

Sir *Edward Fiſh*, *witneſs, ſworn.* } *Counſel.* Pray, Sir, look upon the Priſoners, and ſee if you know any of them.

Witneſs. I cannot ſay that theſe were any of the perſons that we did take, but there was a multitude of them gathered together, and we did deſire them to go home, and they took up Brickbats in their hands, and ſaid, They had as much to do there as we had. I took a Hanger from one of them my ſelf, which is here in the Court.

Robert Haydon, *witneſs, ſworn.* } *Counſel.* Tell my Lord what you heard this Rabble of people ſay.

Witneſs. There came a Troop, and they thought it had been the Duke of *Yorkes* Troop, and they ran with Brickbats in their hands to them, and ſaid, that if the King did not give them Liberty of Conſcience, That *May day* muſt be a bloudy day.

Another witneſs ſworn.

L. Ch. Juſtice. Speak what you know of theſe people.

Witneſs. My Lord, they asked if the Duke of

York

York were there, and answer was made, Yes, thinking they would have been satisfied and dispersed, but notwithstanding they came up to the Windmills and flung stones amongst us.

Captain Wilding witness, sworn. My Lord, we did desire them by fair means, to disperse themselves and go home; they told me no, They would be with us ere long at *White-hall*.

Another Captain sworn. My Lord, I was forc'd to make some resistance, but they flung stones very thick at us, saying, These Life-guard Rogues are but a few, and because I commanded one of my Officers to seize on one of them, they cried, Knock down the Rogue.

Another sworn. My Lord, I desired them to go home, their answer was, that we were Rogues and Dogs, and ere long they would come and pull *White-hall* down, and their word was, Hey now or never.

Constable sworn. My Lord, I had these three at the Bar, but *Wilde* was none of them; pointing to the third.

Lord Ch. Justice. You say the other were.

Constable. Yes.

Pike and *Gillington witnesses sworn.*

Pike. I did see this *Cotton* breaking down *Burlingham's* house.

Gillington.

Gillington. I can speak of the tall man *Cotton*, I will swear he was one of them.

L^d. C. Just. Sir *Philip Howard* saies he delivered Five to the Constable, and the Constable saies he does not know whether these be the persons or no, but it is the same thing if they were among those that did it.

Serj. Wilde. Yea, the thing is the same.

L^d. C. Just. You hear your Indictment is for High Treason, you are persons of the same Company, what do you say for your selves?

Prisoners. We were not there.

Serj. Wilde. The Constable swears it.

Constable. I cannot say, these were they, but two of them, *Farrell* is one.

Prisoner. I was walking to *Islington*, and I did march a little way with them, but did nothing.

L^d. C. Just. Where were you taken.

Prisoner. By *Hollawell* Lane, and I was all alone, and a Horseman rode after me, and asked me, if I were not one of them.

L^d. C. Justice. All the Constable can say is this, There were men delivered to him from the Guard, and this man does not deny but that the Guard took him, but he did nothing, but many people are walking abroad in the Holidays; it is pity to take away a mans life without sufficient evidence.

Lord Ch. Just. Farrell, what do you say?

Farrell. I was with my father and mother all the Holidays.

L^d. Ch.

L. Ch. Justice, Cotton, What say you?

Cotton, I came through *Moorefields* about noon, and I was taken by one of the Life-Guard.

Serjeant Wilde. But you were pulling down a house.

Witness. He was pulling down a House on Munday I was informed, and he was commonly among the Players at Pigeon-Holes, and after he had been pulling down a house, he was looking about to see what he could light of.

Prisoner. As I have a Soul to save he Sweares falsly.

L. Ch. Just. Have a care what you say.

You Gentlemen of the Jury here are five men more that are Indicted for the same disorder that the rest were, and we have now a little more discovery of their Rising, and we have discovered other Colours, for they thought the Duke of *York* had been in the Fields, and that enraged them the more, they taking Sir *Philip Howard* for the Duke of *York*; and when they did desire them to disperse themselves and go home, they said, They would not for such Rogues as the Kings Life-Guard were, but they would soon be at *Whitehall*; but you shall see what a Disguise is put upon it, If the King will not give us *Liberty of Conscience*, *May-Day* shall be a *Bloody-day*: This is Gentlemen to give us an *Alarum*, that we may not be too secure; And this must be punished as High-Treason, else we do destroy all. I think no body would have the Innocent to suffer: I had

rather a Guilty Person should escape, then a Guiltless Person suffer. You hear the Constable cannot Swear that all those were the Men, and some others, because in such a Hurry a particular person cannot be known, except you know any of them by sight; I cannot see how you can find them Guilty, God forbid:

John Richardson
Thomas Limbericke } to the Bar.
Richard Woodward

Counsell. You Gentlemen of the Jury, these three that were called last to the Barr stand Indicted as the others, for Levying Warr and Rebellion in *Holbourn*; you shall hear the Evidence, and if we make good the Evidence, you must find them guilty.

William Rogers sworn witness. My Lord, I found this Man at the head of a Party, and I took him, and committed him to the charge of a Company.

L. Ch. Justice. Was he leading them on? Are you sure he was there?

Witness. He will not deny that he was there, but he made no resistance at all: for we had three or four Companies ready to surprise them.

Mrs. Burlingham witness sworn. My Lord, This was the first Man that laid hands to pull down my house.

Sr. I. Wilde. Mistris, was yours a Bawdy-house?

Mrs.

Mris *Burlingham.* No but they dragg'd me out of it.

L. Ch. Justice. Was your House pull'd down?

Husband's Answ. Yes: and all my Goods destroy'd, and Ten pounds in Gold taken out of my Wives Pocket.

Another Witness sworn. *Judge,* What can you say of *Woodward?*

Witness. I cannot say he did take any thing but of the House that I know of.

L. C. Justice. I do not ask you that; but did he go along with them, or had he a Staff in his hand?

Witness. That *John Richardson,* (my Lord) is a Tapster; I heard him say he had made work for us, for he had helped to pull down a house.

John Hand Witness, sworn. My Lord, on *Saturday* last at six of the Clock, I heard him in the red hair say, I have made work for you all. I do not know what he is.

L. Ch. J. What do you say for your self?

Limberick Prisoner. My Lord, I went up to see what the tumult was doing, for I lodg'd hard by; and when they had pull'd down the House, some run one way, and some another; and I was going to *Westminster,* and as I was walking up *Holbourn,* the rest of them were at my heels.

L. Ch. Justice. That was because you was their Captain, and dragg'd the Woman out of the House that sayes she hath lost all she had. *Woodward* what what say you?

Woodward. My Lord, Mr. *Brooks* gave me a black Pot to drink, and I ſtaid no longer then the drinking of that.

L. Ch. Juſtice. What do you ſay that *Richardſon* pull'd down the Woman's Houſe?

Priſoner. My Lord, there was a Whore that clapp'd hands on me, and I wrung my ſelf from her, and told her that her Houſe ſhould be pull'd down.

L. Ch. Juſtice. Truly I ſee ſcarce an Apprentice among you all, and I am glad of it there is no more.

Witneſs. I dog'd him home to his Maſter's houſe, but did not lay hold on him.

Priſoner. I am very innocent of any thing of hurt that I did.

L. Ch. Juſtice. Prove it.

Priſoner. I was alone, How can I prove it. I was not all the Holidayes abroad.

The Apprentice Maſter. All Monday he was at home, and on Tueſday he was at home.

Serj. Wilde. It is impoſſible for him to be one of them, you might miſtake.

L. Ch. Juſtice. You Gentlemen of the Jury, in this caſe take notice; As for *Woodward*, they ſay he was there with a Stick in his hand: I would have you take notice that there is but one Witneſs, for the other you have his own braggs, if you will believe him that he pull'd down a Houſe; you have no other; if you will believe him to be a bragging fool you may. And now for *Limberick* Witneſs, he ſhall be heard.

Priſoners

Prisoners Witness. *L. Ch. Justice.* What do you know of the Prisoner at the Bar.

Witness. This Man (my Lord) did lie in my House, and he did never stay out after 9 or 10 of the Clock: He was at home every night betimes, and he did give me all his money to lay up, and he did earn 16 pence a day.

Another Woman Witness sworn. *L. Ch. Justice.* What can you say?

Witness. My Lord, I can say nothing but that he is a very honest man.

John Sharpelisse, Prisoner at the Bar.

His Inditement read.

Counsel. Gentlemen, he at the Bar stands indicted for High-Treason, and stirring up Rebellion in popular at the head of 500 persons, and pulling down Houses in *Ratcliff* High-way, which we shall endeavour to prove.

John Harding, Owen Maxum, Witnesses call'd, but came not in against the Prisoner.

L. Ch. Justice. Gentlemen of the Jury, you know for matter of fact you are Judges: if you are not satisfied in the Evidence, then you cannot find them guilty. Consider who those persons are where the Evidences have not given sufficient satisfaction.

The

The Summe of the Juries Verdict.

THe Jewry being diſmiſs'd to conſider of their Verdict, after a ſhort ſtay they return'd, and found that as to *Meſſenger*, *Appletree*, *Beaſley* and *Greene*, that according to the time in the Indictment mentioned, they were met together in a riotous manner in East *Smithfield* in *Middleſex*, and about *Moor Fields*, under colour to pull down the Bawdy-houſes. That their Captain was *Beaſley*, who led them on with his Sword drawn, and that they had their Enſign carried by *Meſſenger*, which was an Apron carried upon a Pole, and ſo they marched with their Conductor. That they reſiſted the Conſtable who charged them in the Kings Name to keep the Peace, and ſtruck him, and took away his Staff, and that theſe ſeveral perſons were abetters in that tumult.

And as to *Bedle* and *Latimer*, they found that a great number of people were met together armed with Swords, Clubs and Staves, *&c.* at *Clerkenwell-Green* to break *New-Priſon* there, and had their Commander who had a Pike in his hand, and came to *New-Priſon*, and releaſed the Priſoners, ſome whereof were committed for Felony; and that when they were commanded to be gone, they cried out that they had been Servants, but now they would be Maſters, and that theſe perſons were ſeen acting in the tumult, and there taken.

As

As for *Cotton* they found, that the riotous persons were met together upon the 24th of *March* with a great number of people armed with their swords, and such like warlike weapons, for pulling down of Bawdy-houses, that when Sir *Philip Howard* with the Kings Guards came up to them, and commanded them to depart, they refused, and when it was given out that Sir *Philip Howard* was the Duke of *York*, thinking thereby they would be appeased, they were enraged the more, and declared, that if the King would not give them Liberty of Conscience, they would make *May day* a bloudy *May day*, threatning to pull down *White-hall*, and very contemptuously sleighted the Kings Guards, because they were but a small number, and this *Cotton* was proved to be one of them in the Action, and all along acting in the Riot.

And further, as to *Limberick*, he was met with the same Pretence of pulling down of *Bawdy-houses*, being armed as the rest were, and was owned by the Rabble to be the Captain of their Company: that he with his Companions pulled down the House of *Peter Burlingham*, and stole his Goods; The rest were found Not-Guilty.

The Jury having thus found it specially, My *Lord Chief Justice* commanded the Prisoners again to the Bar, to whom he spoke to this effect, That we all now see what great cause we have to bless God, that we live under so merciful a Prince, and so good a Law as we now find we do live under; and that not only one Prince hath been so merciful, but such have been the graciousness of other former Kings of *England*, that we shall rarely find any severity used in the

execution

execution of penal Statutes, where any fair means (which constantly hath been used,) could draw any effect at all. That our Justice is not privately, but publickly administred in the sight of all people, like a Beacon that gives warning to all, so that all might take notice thereof, and avoid the like danger that others have fallen into. That the Prisoners more especially ought to bless God, and seriously to reflect within themselves this great mercifulness of our King and Law: for hereby they see, they have not been served so as they have served others (for then upon the very apprehending of them they might have received their execution,) but contrariwise, they have had a fair Trial, not by Strangers, but by their own Country and Neighbours, having had the liberty to speak what they could for themselves, and Witnesses for them, so that if it were possible all might have been found innocent, and heartily wished all could have been so found, and that some, blessed be God, are not found guilty, and to them he hoped this would be a sufficient warning, &c.

Now as to all these Eight, against whom the Verdict was specially found, the Court took further time (because they would advise thereof) before they would give their judgment whether High-Treason or no, it being declared by my *Lord Chief-Justice* to be matter of Law, and in the mean time these persons are to remain in safe Custody in His Majesties Goal at *Newgate*.

And for the other Six, *viz.*

John Earls,
William Wilks,
Richard Woorward,
Richard Farrel,
John Richardson,
William Ford.

The Jury found them not guilty, and so acquitted them of the offence whereof they stood charged, who after several Admonitions by the Court for their future good behaviour, they were discharged.

FINIS.

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